

## NASA Applied Sciences Program

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### *Organizations Related to Ecological Forecasting*

The NASA Applied Sciences Program encourages teams and partnerships across public and private sectors, including national and regional organizations and associations. The following organizations are examples of national or regional associations related to Ecological Forecasting.

(Note: This list is not exhaustive and is provided for reference and example only. The NASA Applied Sciences Program does not necessarily have established relationships with these organizations, and the Program does not imply endorsement of any organization on this list.)

❖ *American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS):*

- **Location(s):** Washington, DC (HQ), Reston, VA (Scientific Peer Advisory and Review Services (SPARS) department), McLean, VA (Business Office).
- **Mission Statement:** To advance biological research and education for the welfare of society, and to facilitate communication and interactions among biologists and other scientific disciplines, as well as to serve and advance the interests of biology in the broader scientific community and in other components of society.
- **Additional Info:** AIBS's goals are to facilitate communication and interaction (by establishing a central information source and network for scientists, convening meetings, and forming coalitions), to serve as a national representative and forum for biology and biologists (by building memberships, strengthening public understanding, incorporating sound science into federal decision-making, managing an information network, promoting full participation, and providing opportunities for professional recognition), and to enhance biological research, education and communication (by disseminating scientific information to the biological community and the general public, assisting agencies that support biological education and research, and encouraging biological education and research). They have approximately 90 organizational memberships and over 6,000 individual memberships.
- **Website:** <http://www.aibs.org/core/index.html>
- **Contact Person:** Joel Cracraft, President.  
*Address:* American Museum of Natural History, Department of Ornithology.  
Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, NY 10024  
*Email:* [jlc@amnh.org](mailto:jlc@amnh.org)  
*Phone:* (212) 769-5633  
*Fax:* (212) 769-5759

❖ *Center for Applied Biodiversity Science (CABS) at Conservation International (CI):*

- **Location:** Washington, DC.
- **Mission Statement:** To strengthen Conservation International's ability to identify and respond to elements threatening Earth's biological diversity.
- **Additional Info:** CABS addresses the issue of conservation science (conservation of planet's diversity of species and ecosystems) through collaborations with universities, research centers, and multilateral governmental and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). It establishes partnerships with international development agencies (USAID, World Bank), museums and research institutes (Smithsonian), and non-governmental organizations.
- **Website:** <http://www.cabs.conservation.org/xp/CABS/home>.

- **Contact Person:** Lewis Coleman, President.  
*Address:* 1919 M Street, NW Suite 600, Washington, D.C. 20036  
*Phone:* (202) 912-1000

❖ *The Institute for Bird Populations:*

- **Location:** Point Reyes Station, CA.
- **Mission Statement:** To foster a global approach to research and dissemination of information on changes in the abundance, distribution, and ecology of bird populations.
- **Additional Info:** The primary goals are to develop, facilitate, coordinate, and to conduct scientific research and standardized monitoring of birds and their environments. Focus is on programs that can be applied on a global scale, can provide for the long-term monitoring of avian vital rates and population trends, can help identify causes of avian population change, and can aid in formulating management actions to reverse population declines and maintain stable or increasing populations. These accomplishments are achieved through creation of a forum for discussion available to all educational and research operations.
- **Website:** <http://www.birdpop.org/index.html>
- **Contact Person:** David F. DeSante, Founder.  
*Address:* 11435 State Route One, Suite 23; Point Reyes Station, CA 94956  
*Phone:* (415) 663-2052

❖ *The Nature Conservancy (TNC):*

- **Location:** Arlington, VA
- **Mission Statement:** To preserve the plants, animals, and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the land and waters they need to survive.
- **Additional Info:** Accomplishment of the mission statement is done by working closely with communities, business, and individual people, and by using a non-confrontational science-based plan.
- **Website:** <http://www.birdpop.org/index.html>
- **Contact Person:** Steven J. McCormick, President and CEO.  
*Address:* 4245 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22203-1606  
*Phone:* (703) 841-5300.

❖ *Ecosystems Center at the Marine Biological Laboratory:*

- **Location:** Woods Hole, Massachusetts.
- **Mission Statement:** To investigate the structure and functioning of ecological systems and to predict their response to changing environmental conditions, to apply the resulting knowledge to the preservation and management of natural resources, and to educate both future scientists and concerned civilians.
- **Additional Info:** The center operates as a collegial association of scientists working together on projects, combining expertise from a wide range of disciplines. The center strives for development of a solid foundation for environmental policy and management. The majority of funding comes from grants from government agencies, remaining comes from gifts/grants from private foundations.
- **Website:** <http://ecosystems.mbl.edu/index.html>
- **Contact Person:** Paul A. Steudler, Senior Research Scientist.  
*Phone:* (508) 289-7491  
*Fax:* (508) 457-1548  
*Email:* [steudler@mbl.edu](mailto:steudler@mbl.edu).

❖ *Flora of North America (FNA):*

- **Location:** St. Louis, MO
- **Mission Statement:** To provide the very best scientific information about the plants of our continent, and to use new scientific technologies and methodologies as tools to analyze this data.
- **Additional Info:** The organization works to preserve biodiversity by understanding the biology and relationships of plants that form a particular ecosystem and by managing resources wisely.
- **Website:** <http://hua.huh.harvard.edu/FNA/index.html>.
- **Contact Person:** Peter Stevens, Executive Director.  
*Address:* P.O. Box 299, St. Louis, MO 63166-0299  
*Phone:* (314) 577-0861  
*Fax:* (314) 577-0830  
*E-mail:* [peter.stevens@mobot.org](mailto:peter.stevens@mobot.org)

❖ *Estuarine Research Federation (ERF):*

- **Location:** Port Republic, MD
- **Mission Statement:** To promote research in estuarine and coastal waters, to promote communication between members of Affiliated Societies, to conduct meetings, and to be available as a source of advice in matters concerning estuaries and the coastal zone.
- **Additional Info:** ERF is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan, multidisciplinary organization composed of individuals who study and manage the structure and functions of estuaries and the effects of human activities on these fragile environments. Their members are dedicated towards advancing human understanding and appreciation of Earth's estuaries and coasts, to the wise use and management of these environments, and to making the results of their research and management available to colleagues and the public.
- **Website:** <http://erf.org/Welcome.html>
- **Contact Person:** Linda Schaffner, President.  
*Address:* P.O. Box 510, Port Republic, MD, 20676  
*Phone:* (804)-684-7366  
*Email:* [Linda@vims.edu](mailto:Linda@vims.edu)